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SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Monday, 26 June 2000

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Twenty-fourth special session

United Nations Office at Geneva

1st plenary meeting

Opening of the session by the Temporary President, the Chairman of the delegation of Namibia [1]

The Temporary President, H.E. Mr. Hage Geingob, Prime Minister of the Republic of Namibia, declared open the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world".

Minute of silent prayer or meditation [2]

The Temporary President then invited members of the General Assembly to observe one minute of silent prayer or meditation.

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (Article 19 of the Charter) (A/S-24/6)

The Temporary President drew the attention of the General Assembly to a letter from the Secretary-General (A/S-24/6) concerning the arrears of 35 Member States in the payment of their financial contribution to the United Nations.

Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee [3 (a)]

On the recommendation of the Preparatory Committee for the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, the General Assembly decided that the Credentials Committee for the twenty-fourth special session would consist of the same members as those appointed for the fifty-fourth session of the Assembly, namely Austria, Bolivia, China, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago and the United States of America.

The Temporary President called attention to the fact that credentials should be issued for all representatives to the special session, in accordance with rule 27 of the rules of procedures of the General Assembly, and urged all members to submit the credentials of representatives to the Secretary-General as soon as possible.

Note: The PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS AND AGENDA and the SUMMARY OF MEETINGS of bodies other than those of the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session appear in Part II (English/French) of the present issue of the *Journal* (No. 2000/123 (Part II)).

Election of the President of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly [4]

On the recommendation of the Preparatory Committee for the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, the General Assembly elected the President of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Theo-Ben Gurirab (Namibia), President of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly.

The President made a statement.

Statement by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General made a statement.

Report of the Preparatory Committee for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world" (A/S-24/2 and Add.1 and 2 (Parts I-III)) [5]

The Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", Mr. Cristián Maquieira (Chile), made a statement in the course of which he introduced the report of the Preparatory Committee (A/S-24/2 and Add.1 and 2 (Parts I- III)).

Organization of the session: draft decision I (A/S-24/2) [6]

The General Assembly adopted draft decision I recommended by the preparatory committee in paragraph 42 of its report (A/S-24/2).

On the basis of the decision taken by the Assembly, the President informed members that the Vice-Presidents of the twenty-fourth special session would be the same as those of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly. The General Assembly elected Algeria, Bolivia, China, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, France, Grenada, Iceland, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Lithuania, Monaco, Nigeria, the Russian Federation, Seychelles, Tajikistan, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America Vice-Presidents of the twenty-fourth special session.

The President also informed members that the Chairpersons of the Main Committees of the fifty-fourth session would serve in the same capacity at the twenty-fourth special session. The General Assembly elected the following persons as Chairpersons of the Main Committees: First Committee: H.E. Mr. Raimundo González (Chile); Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee): H.E. Mr. Sotirios Zackheos (Cyprus); Second Committee: H.E. Mr. Roble Olhaye (Djibouti); Third Committee: H.E. Mr. Vladimir Galuška (Czech Republic); Fifth Committee: E. Ms. Penny Wensley (Australia); Sixth Committee: Mr. Phakiso Mochochoko (Lesotho).

The Assembly was further informed that in his absence, the Chairman of the Third Committee had designated Ms. Mónica Martínez (Ecuador), Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, as Acting Chairperson of that Committee for the duration of the twenty-fourth special session.

In adopting the recommendations of the preparatory committee, the Assembly established the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the Twenty-Fourth Special Session.

In accordance with the recommendation of the preparatory committee adopted by the General Assembly, the President informed members that the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole would be a full member of the General Committee of the twenty-fourth special session.

Pursuant to the recommendation made by the preparatory committee that the Chairman of the preparatory committee serve in the same capacity in the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole, the General Assembly elected Mr. Cristián Maquieira (Chile) as Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole.

The General Committee of the twenty-fourth special session was thus fully constituted.

On the basis of the decision taken by the General Assembly, the President informed members that observers could make statements in the debate in the plenary.

The President also informed members that States members of specialized agencies that were not members of the United Nations could participate in the work of the twenty-fourth special session in the capacity of observers.

The President further informed members that associate members of the regional commissions could participate in the special session, in the same capacity of observer that applied to their participation in the World Summit for Social Development.

The President also informed members that representatives of United Nations programmes and other entities in the United Nations system could make statements in the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole.

The President informed members that, given availability of time, a limited number of representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council could make statements in the debate in plenary and that representatives of non-governmental organizations could also make statements in the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole. The President further informed members that consultations regarding the selection of non-governmental organizations to address the plenary were still continuing.

In accordance with the decision adopted by the General Assembly, the President also informed members that there would be ten plenary meetings over the five-day period, with two meetings per day from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The President reminded members that, on the basis of the decision adopted by the Assembly, the length of statements should not exceed 7 minutes so that all those inscribed on the list of speakers for a given meeting could be heard at that meeting.

Adoption of the agenda (A/S-24/1) [7]

The General Assembly decided to consider the provisional agenda of the twenty-fourth special session without referring it to the General Committee.

The Assembly then adopted the agenda as contained in document A/S-24/1 and as contained in draft decision II recommended by the preparatory committee in paragraph 42 of its report (A/S-24/2).

On the basis of the decision taken by the Assembly, the President informed members that all items would be considered directly in plenary and that agenda item 8 had also been allocated to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole for consideration, on the understanding that the debate on the item would take place in plenary meeting.

Proposals for further initiatives for social development [8]: *debate*

The General Assembly heard statements by H.E. Mr. Abderrahman El-Youssoufi, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Morocco; H.E. Mr. Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, President of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea; H.E. Mr. Jacob Zuma, Vice-President of the Republic of South Africa; H.E. Mr. Samdech Hun Sen, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia; H.E. Mr. Rexhep Meidani, President of the Republic of Albania; H.E. Mr. Jaime David Fernández Mirabal, Vice-President of the Dominican Republic; H.E. Flt.-Lt. Jerry John Rawlings, President of the Republic of Ghana; H.E. Mr. Hage Geingob, Prime Minister of the Republic of Namibia; H.E. The Right Honourable Pakalitha Bethuel Mosisili, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Lesotho; and H.E. Mr. Michael Ritter, Deputy Prime Minister of Liechtenstein.

2nd plenary meeting

Proposals for further initiatives for social development [8]: *debate*

The General Assembly heard statements by His Serene Highness Crown Prince Albert, Crown Prince of the Principality of Monaco; H.E. Mr. Mohammad Ali Najafi, Vice-President of the Islamic Republic of Iran; H.E. Mr. Isaias Rodríguez, Vice-President of the Republic of Venezuela; H.E. Mr. Jean-François Ntoutoume-Emane, Prime Minister of the Gabonese Republic; H.E. Mr. Frederick Chiluba, President of the Republic of Zambia; H.E. Mrs. Astrid Fischel, Vice-President of the Republic of Costa Rica; H.E. Mrs. Valentina Matvienko, Deputy Chairman of the Government of the Russian Federation; H.E. Mr. Eduardo Ferro Rodrigues, Minister of Labour and Solidarity of Portugal (on behalf of the European Union and of Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Turkey); H.E. Mr. Mozammel Hossain, State Minister for Social Welfare of Bangladesh; H.E. Mr. Jaime Ruiz, Special Advisor to the President of the Republic of Colombia for Political Affairs; H.E. Mrs. Martine Aubry, Minister of Employment and Solidarity of France; H.E. Mrs. Anne Konaté, Minister of Finance and Economy of Burkina Faso; H.E. Mrs. Maj-Inger Klingwall, Minister for Development Cooperation, Migration and Asylum Policy of Sweden; H.E. Mr. Krishna Chandra Pant, Minister and Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission of India; H.E. Ms. Donna Shalala, Secretary of Health and Human Services of the United States of America; H.E. Mr. Mario Palma-Rojo, Vice-Minister for Regional Development of Mexico; and H.E. Mr. Hans Heinemann, Chairman of the Delegation of the Netherlands.

AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION 1st meeting

The meeting was opened by the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee, Mr. Cristian Maquieira (Chile).

The Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs addressed the Committee of the Whole.

Election of officers

The Ad Hoc Committee elected, by acclamation, the following Vice-Chairmen: Mr. Bagher Asadi (Islamic Republic of Iran), Mr. Ion Gorita (Romania) and Mr. Koos Richelle (Netherlands). The Ad Hoc Committee agreed that Mr. Bagher Asadi (Islamic Republic of Iran) would also serve as Rapporteur.

The Ad Hoc Committee postponed the election of the remaining Vice-Chairman to a subsequent meeting.

The representative of Algeria made a statement.

The Ad Hoc Committee also agreed that Mr. Zola Skweyiya (South Africa) would serve as ex officio member of the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee.

Organization of work

Following statements by the representatives of Cuba, Pakistan, Canada and Guatemala, the Ad Hoc Committee approved its organization of work as contained in document A/S-24/AC.1/L.1.

Proposals for further initiatives for social development [8]

The Ad Hoc Committee began its general discussion of the item.

The Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations made statements.

Statements were made by the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund and the Deputy Executive Director of the World Food Programme.

Statements were also made by the observers of the following non-governmental organizations in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council: International Federation of University Women, Indian Movement Tupac Amaru and National Association of Cuban Economists.

2nd meeting

Proposals for further initiatives for social development [8]

The Ad Hoc Committee continued its general discussion of the item.

Statements were made by the Managing Director of the World Bank, the Director-General of the World Health Organization, the representative of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Director-General of the International Labour Organization and the Special Representative to the United Nations of the International Monetary Fund.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Deputy Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia made statements.

A statement was also made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women.

Statements were made by the observers for the International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres, the International Movement ATD Fourth World, the Centre Europe - Tiers Monde, the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University, the World Family Organization (non-governmental organizations in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council), the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs of the World Council of Churches (on behalf of the Ecumenical team), the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the Centro di Ricerca e Documentazione Febrario 74 (non-governmental organizations in special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council), the Instituto del Tercer Mundo (on behalf of Development Caucus), Women's Environment and Development Organization (non-governmental organizations in roster consultative status with the Economic and Social Council) and the Arab Non-Governmental Organization Network for Development (non-governmental organization accredited to the World Summit for Social Development; on behalf of the Arab Caucus).

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